

## **CASCADE COUNTY DUI TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES**

**May 26, 2015**

### **Law Enforcement Recognition Ceremony**

At 3:30 p.m. Task Force coordinator Jerry Kelley welcomed those in attendance to the Law Enforcement Recognition ceremony. The following individuals were recognized for their dedication in combating drunk and impaired driving:

Cascade County Sheriff's Office: **Deputy Steve Brunk**  
Great Falls Police Department: **Sr. Police Officer Kevin Supalla**  
Montana Highway Patrol: **Trooper David Baggs**  
Malmstrom AFB: **Technical Sergeant Robert Harmon**  
Great Falls City Attorney's Office: **Cassidy Blomgren**  
Cascade County Attorney's Office: **Josh Racki**

The honorees were each presented with a plaque along with gifts donated by Bed Bath & Beyond, Bennett Motors, Crystal Inn, Electric City Conservatory, Fairfield Inn, Fast Car Wash, Fuddruckers, Great Falls Inn, Great Harvest, Heritage Inn, Holiday Inn, Shoot the Moon, Starbucks, State Farm Insurance, and the Town House Inn.

### **Call to Order**

DUI Task Force president Barbara Bessette called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. at the Great Falls Pre-Release Center, noting that a quorum was present to conduct business.

### **1. Roll Call**

#### **DUI Task Force Members**

**Cascade County Attorney designee:** Ashley Wilkinson – **Present**  
**Cascade County Sheriff designee:** Deputy Travis Grove – **Present**  
**City of Great Falls Chief of Police designee:** Captain Jeff Newton – **Present**  
**Great Falls City Attorney designee:** Cassidy Blomgren – **Excused Absence**  
**State of Montana Highway Patrol District II Chief designee:** Trooper David Baggs – **Present**  
**Great Falls Victim-Witness Services designee:** Savannah Hilton – **Excused Absence**  
**State of MT Adult Probation & Parole Regional Admin designee:** Wayne Bye – **Present**  
**Montana Tavern Association Home Safe Program designee:** Vince Kyle – **Present**  
**Gateway Recovery Center designee:** Barbara Bessette - **Present**  
**Benefis Health Systems, Inc. Chemical Dependency Unit designee:** J.T. Lute – **Present**  
**Great Falls Pre-Release Services, Inc. designee:** Lisa Meyers – **Present**  
**Cascade County Commissioner:** Jim Larson - **Present**  
**Great Falls Public Schools designee:** Danielle Funseth – **Excused Absence**  
**Airmen Against Drunk Driving designee:** Staff Sergeant Mark Brandly – **Absent**  
**Citizen Members:** Jim Whitaker – **Present**; Corin Fisch – **Excused Absence**; Mark Hewitt - **Present**  
**Task Force Coordinator:** Jerry Kelley - **Present**

#### **Members of the Public in Attendance**

John Hayes, Cascade County Tavern Association  
Cierra Urness, Prevention Specialist, Gateway Community Services

## **2. Approval of Minutes from April 28, 2015**

DUI Task Force members reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. **Vince Kyle motioned to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2015, meeting as presented. Lisa Meyers seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.**

## **3. Public Information Committee**

Website Pictures: Barbara Bessette announced that the Public Information Committee is still looking for pictures to add to the website. Pictures from today's Law Enforcement Recognition Ceremony will be posted as well as pictures from the Alcohol Summit.

County Website: Cascade County and the Montana Department of Transportation will add links from their webpages to the DUI Task Force website.

PSA Sponsor Information: As discussed at last month's meeting, it was noticed that the DUI Task Force radio PSA's were being sponsored by various other entities. As a result, Mr. Kelley spoke to the representative from Cherry Creek Radio and was told that the station would allow the Task Force to sponsor its own PSA's. Barbara Bessette re-recorded the PSA's, yet Mr. Kelley noticed they continued to be sponsored by others. Jerry Kelley contacted Cherry Creek Radio again and was told that the DUI Task Force sponsors their own in addition to other PSA's and other entities sponsor the Task Force in return. Concern was raised regarding the potential of the DUI Task Force sponsoring a subject not related to its cause. Barbara Bessette is going to explore options with Star Radio when the contract with Cherry Creek Radio expires.

School Newspaper Art Winners: Barbara Bessette presented the winning artwork from the school newspaper ad contest. Danielle Adams was the winner from Belt and Julie Gremaux from CMR. Each student will be awarded a \$25 gift card, and their artwork will be used in the DUI Task Force ads beginning next school year in their respective school newspapers. Great Falls High does not currently have an active school newspaper so did not participate.

DUI Task Force Logo Contest: DUI Task Force members viewed and discussed the six submissions. Jerry Kelley advised that if none are suitable the contest could be extended again. A suggestion was made to solicit artwork from artistically talented pre-release residents. Task Force members agreed to vote on the four most liked submissions at the next meeting. Jerry Kelley will e-mail the four submissions to the committee members and a majority vote will determine the winner.

## **4. Financial/Budget Performance Report and Requests for Payment/Purchases**

DUI Task Force members reviewed the financial statements. \$2,215.25 was paid to purchase Alco Sensors for the Cascade County Sheriff's Office. J.T. Lute noticed that the monthly payment to the Pre-Release was missing. Barbara Bessette will inquire about this.

## **5. Report from the Task Force Coordinator**

2015-2016 Annual Plan: This was approved by the County Commissioners and submitted to the Montana Department of Transportation.

Community Day Event at Holiday Village Mall: Jerry Kelley and Lisa Meyers manned a booth on Saturday, May 9, from 10 am to 3 pm. Mr. Kelley and Ms. Meyers spoke to approximately 20 people regarding the DUI Task Force's mission and handed out various DUI Task Force promotional products. Another community day event will be held in the fall.



Crashed Vehicle for State Fair: Jerry Kelley reserved the Montana Highway Patrol's crashed vehicle beginning July 13 for display at the Montana State Fair. Vince Kyle offered to transport the vehicle if J.T. Lute is unable to do so.

#### **6. DUI Statistics and MIP-A Statistics**

Deputy Grove presented his report. There were 36 DUI arrests in April compared to 25 last year. The average blood alcohol content for both this year and last year in April was 0.16. DUI arrests by gender from July 2014 through April 2014 are 167 males and 55 females. During the same time period the most DUI convictions were those 50 years and older. There were 19 MIP-A citations for the month of April. The Tavern Association Safe Rides Home program provided 139 rides for 168 individuals. The average cost was \$10.42 per person with a total cost of \$1,448.50.

#### **7. MAFB Save Stats from Airmen Against Drunk Driving**

A representative from Malmstrom was not in attendance and stats were not provided.

#### **8. Recognizing Sellers and 911 Callers with Kudo Cards**

Jerry Kelley received a call from an individual that was awarded a Kudo Card for not serving an underage person. It is unknown who gave the Kudo Card to the server.

#### **9. Round Robin of all Task Force Members**

Barbara Bessette announced that National Trails Day is June 6. Get Fit Great Falls is offering 16 different hikes. Ms. Bessette recognized John Hayes of the Cascade County Tavern Association for winning an award at the Alcohol Summit for teaching the most people under "Let's Control It" than anyone else in the state. Alliance For Youth also received an award at the Summit. Great Falls received two awards out of the five given for the state.

Wayne Bye thanked the DUI Task Force for approving the overtime funds for probation and parole at last month's meeting.

Jim Whitaker announced that he decided to renew his two year term as a citizen member of the DUI Task Force.

Jerry Kelley thanked Brenda Demers for helping make the programs for today's Law Enforcement Recognition Ceremony. Mr. Kelley read a thank you note from Great Falls High for the Task Force's donation to Project Graduation. Jerry Kelley displayed a plaque he had made on behalf of the DUI Task Force to present to Tim Shanks thanking him for his ten plus years of service on the Task Force.

#### **10. Public Comment**

John Hayes acknowledged his attendance at the Alcohol Summit in Bozeman.

**Adjourn**

Jim Whitaker motioned and Wayne Bye seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:37 p.m. There being no further business, the motion carried.

**The next meeting will be June 30, 2015, at 3:30 p.m. at the Great Falls Pre-Release.**

**Citizen Member Expiration Dates:** Mark Hewitt – June 30, 2017  
Jim Whitaker – June 30, 2017  
Corin Fisch – June 30, 2016

**Letters to the Editor:**

June – Lisa Meyers  
July – J.T. Lute  
August – Corin Fisch  
September – Barbara Bessette  
October – Lisa Meyers  
November – Travis Grove  
December – SSgt Mark Brandly